



Together Again At Last!

It's been a long, strange trip, as they say (especially over this Woodstock anniversary weekend), but KU English has finally been reunited on the second and third floors of Wescoe Hall. The entire Senior Staff and all full-time lecturers now call the third floor home (among other things). Strays from the first and fourth floors, as well as from Watson Library, have been gathered in. Spanish and History have been banished (?) to the half-level suburbs of the building. Only Philosophy lingers with us on Main Street of our beloved pillbox. According to Lori Whitten, we occupy 84 offices on the third floor and 17 offices on the second floor, some with 4-8 occupants. The large conference room in the middle of our office suite is now . . . ours! It has also been technologically retrofitted. Check it out. Is the ventilation improved? The DNB awaits your comments. There's a certain pleasure in proximity and we hope it translates into convenience and, especially, collegiality. Make it so—and have a great year!

Laura Mielke Wins 2009 Byron Caldwell Smith Book Award

Assistant Professor **Laura Mielke** has been named a co-winner of the 2009 Byron Caldwell Smith Award for her monograph, *Moving Encounters: Sympathy and the Indian Question in Antebellum Literature*. She shares the award this year with Don Worster, Hall Distinguished Professor of American History (good company!), who was recognized for his biography of John Muir. The biennial award, which includes a cash prize, was established by Kate Stephens, one of KU's first women professors, in honor of her mentor, KU Professor of Greek language and literature Byron Caldwell Smith. Books published in the last two years by residents of Kansas are eligible for consideration. Mielke and Worster will also be featured at the Byron Caldwell Smith Lecture, 24 September, 7:30-9:00 pm, in the Hall Center Conference Hall.



Laura Mielke

Acclaimed Creative Writer Leads Off Humanities Lecture Series

Lewis Hyde, Richard L. Thomas Professor of Creative Writing at Kenyon College will be the first speaker in the 2009-2010 Humanities Lecture Series. He will address "Culture as Commonwealth," 25 August, 7:30 pm, in Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union. Hyde is best known for his prose work, *The Gift*, an extended study of reciprocity and the role of the artist in a commercial society. He has published a book of poetry, *This Error is the Sign of Love*, as well as the non-



Lewis Hyde

fiction work, *Trickster Makes This World*. He has also edited volumes on the work of Vicente Alexandre, Henry David Thoreau, and Allen Ginsberg. A frequent grant recipient, he also was awarded a prestigious MacArthur Fellowship in 1991.

Extraordinary Grant Success



Maryemma Graham

Philip Barnard

Janet Sharistianian

Professors **Philip Barnard**, **Maryemma Graham**, and **Janet Sharistianian** have received institutional grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities. Combined with numerous other grants awarded to English faculty by independent external agencies, Department members accounted for 41% of successful grant activity in the humanities at KU. Barnard's award will support an ongoing collaborative project, "The Letters of Charles Brockden Brown." Graham will spearhead a summer seminar and institute, "The Wright Connection: Reading *Native Son*, *Black Boy*, and *Uncle Tom's Children*." Sharistianian will also lead a summer seminar and institute (in conjunction with Ted Wilson of History), "America and the Great War." **Marta Caminero-Santangelo**, **Stephanie Fitzgerald**, **Maryemma Graham**, **Laura Mielke**, **Ann Rowland**, and **Deb Olin Unferth** also received grants for individual research and creative endeavor. See <http://www.hallcenter.ku.edu/grants/external/2009.shtml> for a full listing of these faculty members' projects. Congratulations to all for your personal achievement and thanks, collectively, for representing the Department so well.

Dates to Anticipate

- **Humanities Lecture Series:** Lewis Hyde, Richard L. Thomas Professor of Creative Writing, Kenyon College, "Culture as Commonwealth," 25 August, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.
- **Department Deadline for Sabbatical Applications:** 31 August.
- **EAT Labor Day Special:** Concert reading of "The Designated Mourner," by Wallace Shawn, 7 September, 7:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center.
- **2009 English Department "Kick-off" Welcome Reception**, 8 September, 4:00 - 5:30 pm, Malott Room, Kansas Union. Faculty, staff, and graduate students invited.

• **Richard W. Gunn Memorial Lecture:** China Mieville, University of Warwick, Title TBA, 24 September, 7:30 pm, Alderson Auditorium

• **EAT Staged Reading, *Dogshit Ballet*,** by Feloniz Lovato-Winston, 27 September, 2:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center.

• **John F. Eberhardt Memorial Lecture:** David Treuer, University of Minnesota, Title TBA, 29 October, 7:30 pm, Alderson Auditorium.

• **Humanities Lecture Series:** Chris Abani, novelist, “Stories of Struggle, Stories of Hope: Art, Politics and Human Rights,” 17 November, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium, Kansas Union.

• **EAT Full Production: *What Really Happened*,** by Benjamin Smith, 21 November, 7:30 pm, 22 November, 2:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center

• **EAT Staged Reading:** “Two from the Hurt”: Revisiting “The Way We Live Now,” by Susan Sontag & “Andre’s Mother,” by Terence McNally, 29 November, 2:30 pm, Lawrence Arts Center.

Presentations by individual English Department members will be announced the week before they occur.

Publications

Bell, Samantha

“Teaching the Self to Speak” (essay). *Emprise Review* 8 (May/June 2009): <<http://muttsbane.com/default.aspx>>.

“Appalachia” (essay). *Pure Francis*, Summer 2009.

“Ask for Nothing” (essay). *Melusine*, July 2009.

Ellis, Iain

“On the Sixth Day God Created Man . . . Chester.” Part One (June 12, 2009); Part Two (August 7, 2009). *PopMatters* (located at popmatters.com).

Johnson, Michael L.

“On the Strangeness of Savoonga, Alaska, Where It’s So Cold Refrigerators Are Used to Keep Food Warm and You Can’t Bury the Dead Very Deep: A Found Poem” (poem). *Colere* 9 (2009): 43.

“Tintoretto” (poem). *Muse & Stone* (2009): 116.

“Johann Heinrich Wilhelm Tischbein, *Goethe in the Roman Campagna* (1787)” and “*Une Vie au Rebours*” (poems). *Rockhurst Review* 22 (Spring 2009): 42.

“Illicit Love” (poem). *The Lyric* 89.2 (Spring 2009): 65.

Williams, Nathaniel

“Relics of Interesting Times (short story). *Footprints* (original anthology), ed. Jay Lake and Eric T. Reynolds. Hadley Rille Books, 2009.

Presentations

Carothers, James B. (with Theresa Towner, B.A. ‘80)

“Teaching Faulkner” (two sessions), Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, University of Mississippi, 19-23 July.

Kramar, Margaret

“Cells, Catacombs, and Coffins: Charting the Destiny of Race Relations in *Intruder in the Dust*,” Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, University of Mississippi, 19-23 July.

Williams, Nathaniel

“From Scientific Exploration to Racial Revelation: Extraordinary Voyages to Garrett P. Serviss’s Mars and Pauline Hopkins’s Africa,” Extraordinary Voyages: Jules Verne and Beyond, Eaton Science Fiction Conference, University of California Riverside, 1 May.

Announcements, Notes, and News

• **New Students:** Welcome to the 25 new KU English graduate students who arrived and received orientation over the last two weeks. Next week’s issue will provide information about who they are and where they’re from, but please extend (or lend) a hand to anyone you don’t recognize this week and throughout the semester.

• **Calendar Responsibilities:** **Lydia Ash** handles reservations for the Department’s two conference rooms. Please contact her to schedule events in either 3025 Wescoe (small conference room) or 3001A (large conference room). **Bob Elliott** is the Department’s University Calendar representative. To place an item on the University or Department electronic calendar, please contact Bob.

• **Erin Williams** has been selected to serve as Administrative Intern for the Freshman-Sophomore English program for the 2009-2010 academic year. Congratulations, Erin!

• **Jim Carothers** reports that two graduates of KU English also participated in the Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference this summer (see “Presentations” for current KU participants). **Kelly Hayden**, Ph.D. 1983, University of Nevada-Reno, addressed “Blowing ‘Smoke’: The Hypnotic Voice in William Faulkner,” while **Colby Kullman**, Ph.D. 1981, Ole Miss, led the “Faulkner on the Fringe” program.

KU and Regional Events

• **Gender Seminar**, “The Gendered Nature of Sexual Scripts,” Charlene Muehlenhard, Psychology/Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, 24 August, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Humanities Lecture Series:** “A Conversation with Lewis Hyde,” 26 August, 10-11:30 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **Big Tent Series: Poetry Reading** by **Karen Ohnesorge**, Ph.D. 2005, with Katie Oberthaler and Diane Glancy, 27 August, 7:00 pm, The Raven Bookstore.

• **Latin American Seminar**, “Geopiracy vs. Geoadvocacy: Results from the American Geographical Society Bowman Expedition Prototype to Indigenous Mexico,” Peter Herlihy, Geography, 28 August, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

About the DNB

Frequency: The *DNB* is distributed to Department mailboxes every Friday during the academic year, except for holiday and semester breaks. Each weekly issue is also available online at <<http://www.english.ku.edu>>.

Deadline: The Calendar lists important events (e.g. exams, meetings, presentations by Department members) for the upcoming week: other happenings of interest for that period usually are noted under KU and Regional Events. Information on any events to be publicized must be received by noon Thursday for inclusion in that Friday’s issue. Please leave information in my mailbox and include your name and (if I’m not likely to have it) your phone number or e-mail address in case I have questions.

Publications/Presentations: Publication information for the *DNB* should be submitted to Bob Elliott (e-mail or hard copy welcome). Please provide a complete written-out citation (including pagination and genre—e.g. “article,” “poem,” “short story,” “personal essay.”) Copies or offprints of recently published works should be submitted to Bob Elliott when they are available. For inclusion under “Presentations,” please provide the date, place, title of conference, and title of paper. **The *DNB* encourages submissions of publication and presentation information from both full-time and part-time faculty and graduate students.**

Dates: Unless given otherwise, assume that the year of publications, events, deadlines, and so forth is the present one.

Bob Elliott, Editor

QUIZ: Can you identify the literary quote that comprises this issue’s banner headline, lending just a touch of irony to its cheer? Who says it and to whom? First three correct respondents to <relliott@ku.edu> will be identified next week. Hint: Some famous people have been speaking or reacting to it every day in New York and London all spring and summer.